

CLARK H. COHN  
1978

# KANSAS NATURAL GUARD RIDES AGAIN



Participate in  
Non-violent  
Consciousness-Raising

Resource Manual for a Living Revolution (197-); (Monster Manual)  
New Society Pub



## CONSENSUS

Consensus is a way of relating, a process. It is unity, not unanimity, as often believed. Consensus has been reached when all individuals feel comfortable with a decision, after a process of discussion and consideration. The aim is to develop the best possible solution by using everybody's input. The Monster Manual (pp. 52-63) has a brief section on consensus -- note the diagram on page 51.

A contrast of traditional values in decision making and those under consensus illustrates the difference:

### Traditional

Self-oriented  
Ego  
Win  
Speedy decision  
Submit to majority

### Consensus

Respect for others  
Understand  
Listen  
Explore all options  
Interaction, decision all can live with.

Consensus on principles of discussion is fundamental; building bonds among people will allow communication to occur and eventual development and enunciation of the consensus decision.

## SOME GUIDELINES FOR REACHING CONSENSUS

Consensus is a decision process for making full use of available resources and for resolving conflicts creatively. Consensus is difficult to reach; complete unanimity is not the goal --- it is rarely achieved. When all group members can accept a decision on the basis of logic and feasibility, you have reached consensus as defined here, and the judgment seen as a group decision. This means in effect, that a single person can block the group if s/he thinks it necessary; at the same time, s/he should use this option in the best sense of reciprocity. Here are some guidelines to use in achieving consensus:

1. Avoid arguing for your own ideas. Present your position as lucidly and logically as possible, but listen to the other members' reactions and consider them carefully before you press your point.
2. Do not assume that someone must win and someone must lose when discussion reaches a stalemate. Instead, look for the next-most-acceptable alternative for all parties.
3. Do not change your mind simply to avoid conflict and to reach agreement and harmony. When agreement seems to come too quickly and easily, be suspicious. Explore the reasons and be sure everyone accepts the solution for basically similar or complementary reasons. Yield only to positions that have objective and logically sound foundations.

## CONSENSUS (CONT.)

4. Avoid conflict-reducing techniques such as majority vote, average coin-flip, and bargaining. When a dissenting member finally agrees, don't feel that he must be rewarded by having his own way on some later point.
5. Differences of opinion are natural and expected. Seek them out and try to involve everyone in the decision process. Disagreements can help the group's decision because with a wide range of information and opinions, there is a greater chance that the group will hit upon more adequate solutions.

From an article in Psychology Today; November, 1971, by Jay Hall edited by Shivers, January 1972, Recopied at this time from the Southern Mobilization Affinity Group Trainers Manual for the Catfish sponsored May 1st action (1978) at Barnwell, S.C.

Moment of silence / reflection

talking stick



Large Group

Proposal to  
Whole Group

(Facilitator)  
Small Group

Check for  
Clarifying  
Questions

Large Group

Facilitators  
check for  
Clarifying  
Questions

Small Group

Silence  
to consider  
proposal  
Discussion

Major  
Changes

Major  
Changes

Small  
Changes  
Concerns  
Recommend-  
ations

Yes

Discard

No  
Resubmit  
Original

Yes

Compro-  
mise

Proposal Group  
&  
Major Change  
Group

Second Try  
Same Proposal  
Same Objection  
It's time to  
split the Group

No  
Compromise  
has  
been tried

Yes

Small  
Change

No

Yes  
Small Group

Check for  
Clarifying  
Questions on  
small changes

Large Group

Facilitators  
Check for  
Clarifying  
Questions on  
small changes

Small Group

Silence to  
Consider  
small changes  
Discussion

Accept  
Small  
Changes

No

Yes

Concerns  
Recommend-  
ations

Discard

Consensus

How much for  
consensus

5



# SHORT HISTORY OF THE ONGOING AND ON-GOING FIGHT TO STOP WOLF CREEK

1968--Kansas Gas & Electric (KG&E) negotiates option to buy contract for water from the John Redmond Reservoir with the State of Kansas.

Feb. 20, 1973--The Board of Directors give approval and simultaneous announcements are made in Burlington and Wichita that Wolf Creek, a \$1 billion nuclear generation station, would be built with Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) near Burlington, Kansas.

Dec., 1973--Landowners on the proposed site file suit to block plans to build Wolf Creek.

Feb. 4, 1975--District Court rules utilities can continue with plans to build Wolf Creek. KG&E later has the land of 4 farmers condemned so they can acquire it by eminent domain.

July 10, 1975--The Environmental Impact Statement for Wolf Creek is released and the utilities apply to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a construction permit.

Nov., 1975--Westinghouse, Inc. announces its intention to break its uranium supply contracts because it had oversold uranium it did not have the market price of uranium was rising. KG&E had a 20-year supply contract agreement with Westinghouse.

Late Fall, 1975--State Senator Harry Wiggins, chairman of a special committee on public utilities in Missouri holds hearings in Kansas City to see if the Missouri General Assembly should be involved in the nuclear power debate. Mayor Wheeler of Kansas City, Mo., calls for a moratorium on construction of new nuclear plants. (Besides the Wolf Creek Plant, Union Electric of St. Louis intends to build the Callaway County Plant in central Missouri.)

Jan. 26, 1976--Formal hearings begin in Kansas City, Mo., on the construction permit for Wolf Creek from the NNRC. Intervenor opponents of Wolf are the State of Kansas and Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives (MACEA). Peoples Energy Project of Lawrence demonstrates their opposition by leafleting outside the courthouse.

Feb. 21, 1976--Kansas Attorney General blocks formal consideration of the water contract (selling of John Redmond Reservoir water to KG&E/KCP&L for Wolf Creek) due to conflict of interest of two Kansas Water Resources Board members. The contract is later approved despite the fact that towns downstream traditionally receiving water do not yet have contracts.

April, 1976--NRC grants a limited work permit for road and railroad spur construction.

June 8, 1976--KG&E is charged with making illegal contributions to a group fighting a California ban on nuclear power plants. KG&E confirms it made two \$1500 contributions to the group.



## HISTORY CONTINUED

- July 16, 1976--Continental Walk for Disarmament and Social Justice marches to the offices of KCP&L to protest proposed construction of Wolf Creek.
- July 18, 1976--NRC Staff recommends approval of the construction permit for Wolf Creek.
- Aug. 13, 1976--NRC announces moratorium on nuclear plant licensing until new radioactive waste storage studies are completed.
- Sept., 1976--KG&E/KCP&L ask for exemption to the moratorium so they can be allowed to begin \$22.7 million preparation of the Wolf Creek site.
- Jan. 20, 1977--(Inauguration Day) Nuclear opponents from Kansas and Kansas City plant a tree near the proposed Wolf Creek site as a symbol of safer alternative forms of energy.
- Jan. 24, 1977--Limited Work Authorization granted to KG&E/KCP&L for preparation of the Wolf Creek site with the stipulation that the work be done at the risk of the utility.
- Feb. 8, 1977--MACEA files an appeal to the permit.
- Spring, 1977--Final NRC hearings on the construction permit with MACEA as the lone opposition intervenor. Kansas City People's Energy and friends leaflet outside the courtroom to educate Kansas City citizens to the hazards and costs of nuclear power.
- May, 1977--MACEA asks the NRC to repeal limited work authorizations for Wolf Creek because the financial testimony given to the Missouri Public Service Commission for a CEF&L rate hike conflicts with previous financial testimony given the NRC.
- May 17, 1977--NRC hands down a 2-1 decision to grant a construction permit for Wolf Creek.
- Aug. 6, 1977--Die-In and Balloon release are held in Burlington with Senator John Simpson (Salina, Kansas) participating. The action is sponsored by KC PPP, WCNOI, and others in Kansas opposing Wolf Creek.
- Sept. 30, 1977--Farmers whose land was taken by eminent domain are harassed by KC&E with threats to remove the utility poles thus disrupting electrical service to their farms. Court rules in favor of the farmers.
- Nov. 20, 1977--Late Fall picnic is sponsored by nuclear opponents on land near the Wolf Creek site.
- Jan. 1, 1978--Nuclear opponents rally on the Capital Building steps in Topeka with Non-Nuclear New Year's Resolution for the legislators and working alternative energy display.



HISTORY CONTINUED  
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Feb., 1978--The Sunflower Alliance is formed to stop construction of the Wolf Creek Plant.

March 1, 1978--K.C. Star announces KCP&L negotiations with Nebraska utility to sell 17% of Wolf Creek 1,150 megawatts. The Kansas Legislature holds hearings on the sale because of the use of state water. Controversial approval is granted for the sale.

May 1978 BFK Formal

✓ June 25, 1978--The Sunflower Alliance sponsors a rally at John Redmond Reservoir to highlight the use of water in water-scarce Kansas for the Wolf Creek Plant. Approximately 800 people attend.

July, 1978--MACEA appeals decision to build Wolf Creek based on KG&E's option to convert major natural gas plant to coal thus alleviating need for Wolf Creek.

Sept. 14, 1978--KG&E announces intention to bring the reactor vessel, a major plant component, to the site in October.

Sept. 24, 1978--The Kansas Natural Guard is formed to block the arrival of the reactor vessel by a symbolic occupation of the railroad sour non-violently.

Jan. 12, 1979--The Kansas Natural Guard held a Non-Violence Civil Disobedience Railroad Blockade. 36 were arrested, 17 ~~XXXX~~ pled not guilty, charged with criminal trespass.

March 23, 1979--First five defendants found guilty of depravation of property and disobaying a police officer. Compulsion argument was not allowed. One person refused to pay fines and agreed to do communitiy work in coffey Co. Later the charge for failure to obey a lawful order was dismissed in a n appeal to a higher court.

✓ June 9, 1979--Rally at John Redmond Reservoir. 1500 people attended.

✓ Sept. 3, 1979--23 persons planted wheat by a cemetery adjoining Wolf Creek plant.

✓ Oct. 7, 1979--15 persons planted wheat by an entrance gate to the Wolf Creek plant.

✓ Oct. 21, 1979--425 balloons were released outside the gate at the Wolf Creek plant. Info was attached with a message to be returned.

May 21, 1980--Stochholders proposal to stop construction was instigated. 6% voted to stop and 11% ~~XXXXXX~~ abstained from voting.

✓ Aug. 23, 1980--Rally at John Redmonds Reservoir. Michio Kaku was there. This was an Energy Awareness Fair. ~~OOD action~~

May 27, '81-- tocholders proposal to stop wolf creek construction.

June 18-26, 1981--A Kansas City television news reporter uncovered alleged fraud in welding documents at wolf creek plant among other facility construction claims.

✓ Nov 9, 1981 KNG planned wheat 28 and cottonwood trees on a new ~~for~~ Fairman land  
68 people attended

Nov. 9, 1981--KNG planted wheat and cottonwood trees on farmer's land near Wolf Creek.  
68 people attended.

Mar. 26-8, '82--KNG held "Energy Fair" and planted cottonwood trees near plant.  
March from John Redmond Reservoir to main gate. Harassment by  
KG&E security and restraining order prevented civil disobedience.

Nov. '82 KNG Action.

March 26-8, '83--20 members of KNG march to Wolf Creek. Vigil tent, rally and  
and signs such as "For Sale" and "No Nukes" kite.

May, 1983--Nuclear Awareness Network formed in Lawrence.

July 15-17, '83--March by women to Wolf Creek. Five arrested?

--Gag order placed upon Nuclear Awareness Network by KG&E (district  
court). NAN can't reveal content of files containing allegations of safety  
/violations.

--Gag order overturned by appeals court.

1981 Restraining order request against KNG by  
KG&E granted. Effectively prohibits civil disobedience.  
Since @ resistors would face contempt of court  
charges plus forfeit assets to pay for KG&E expenses.